

Health News Release

For immediate release: May 14, 2014 (14-068)

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Bellingham veterinarian suspended due to alleged drug use

OLYMPIA — State health officials have immediately suspended the credential of a Bellingham veterinarian for alleged drug misuse.

Charges state that Todd William Perry (VET.VT.00004970) appeared to be impaired, with glazed eyes, slurred speech, and an unsteady balance while working with a client's dog. Perry had to lean against a countertop to remain standing upright. Later that day, he was taken to the emergency room at a local hospital by an ambulance for an apparent drug overdose.

Perry admitted to a physician that he injected himself with medications from his veterinary clinic and had been doing it for a "long time." The physician also noticed numerous marks at injection sites on Perry's arm.

Perry can't practice in Washington until the charges are resolved. He has 20 days to respond to the charges and to ask for a hearing.

The documents can be seen online by clicking "Look up a health care provider" on the Department of Health website. Copies can be requested by calling 360-236-4700. That number can also be used to file complaints against health care providers in Washington.

The Department of Health and Veterinary Board of Governors protect and promote public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.